

## BOER ATTACK CHECKED.

GEN. ROBERTS BELIEVED TO BE ABOUT TO STRIKE.

He Sends a Cheerful Despatch to London—Hints of Important News Soon—Boers said to Have Abandoned Their Attack on Wepener After Heavy Losses and to Be Anxious About Their Line of Retreat.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 13.—The following despatch from Gen. Roberts has been received at the War Office:

"BLOEMFONTEIN, April 13.—The enemy's movement south has been checked. Wepener is still surrounded, but the little garrison are holding out. Troops are being moved to the assistance. The health of the troops is good. The climate is perfect."

LONDON, April 14.—Gen. Roberts's hopeful despatch and the reports of correspondents at the front, encourage the papers this morning to take a more cheerful view of the situation in South Africa than they have so far. The reports for several days past. The correspondents are allowed to send only brief despatches, but some balance the restriction by giving predictions expressed in the most sanguine tones. One correspondent at Bloemfontein writes: "The Boers are just where we want them. They are having a little triumph, to which they are welcome, as you will presently say yourselves."

Others declare that the situation is entirely satisfactory. Whatever may be the value of all this, there is every reason to expect important news during the next day or two.

The British are in considerable force in the south and southeastern parts of the Orange Free State, are becoming anxious concerning their line of retreat, and it is stated that some of them are already retreating northward.

Gen. Chermisde, with approximately a whole Third Division, to the removal of which he succeeded after the removal of Gen. Gatacre, has moved eastward without any event of importance occurring. The correspondents with him intimate that important developments are impending, and that the retreat of the Boers, who are south of Taba N'Chou, these are estimated to number about 12,000, including two of the most mobile columns, with the barest possible transport, so that they are able to move almost as rapidly as cavalry. They are expected, however, to be followed at a short distance by a large ox-drawn convoy, which, it is judged, Gen. Chermisde may be aiming to intercept.

The purpose of these southward movements of the burghers continues to puzzle the English. Some of them are, it is believed, the Boers have made a mistake owing to a misapprehension of Gen. Roberts's plans, and they think this view is confirmed by Gen. Roberts's statement that the movements have been checked.

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## MUTTERINGS IN CAPE COLONY.

Assertions That Dutch Farmers Are Waiting for the Boer to Strike.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 14.—It has recently been asserted that the rebellion in Cape Colony was completely stamped out, but news from Cape Town hardly accords with such assertions. It is said that the attitude of the Dutch farmers in the southwestern districts of the colony, notably Swellendam and Caledon, causes grave apprehension. A prominent Dutch farmer there declares that a majority of the Dutch in the districts are only awaiting the right moment to rebel. He says that he alone has sufficient men and arms to arm 500 men. He adds that they will make the first move in Caledon, where they will seize the keys of the magistracy. The districts are mountainous.

The revival of the rebellious spirit is doubtless due to the general belief of the members of the Afrikaner Bond that the recent British mishaps in the Free State are the signal for Boer victories. The Dutch believe that the war will last for three years owing to the adoption by the Boers and the rebels of guerrilla tactics.

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## MCKINLEY'S MATE, WHO?

ROOSEVELT DIDN'T TELEPHONE NO TO THE PRESIDENT.

Gossip About the Governor's Hours at the Hands of the Republican Party—Platt Says if New York Doesn't Get the Vice-Presidential Nomination It Will Go to the Far West—Brisson to Resume His Old Place as Treasurer of the National Committee, It Is Said—Talk of Quigg Becoming a State Committeeman.

Gov. Roosevelt has not telephoned from Albany to Washington to President McKinley that he must not be considered a candidate for Vice-President in the Philadelphia National Convention. Gov. Roosevelt has had no communication with the President on the subject whatever. Gov. Roosevelt telephoned his information from Albany yesterday to some of his Republican friends hereabouts. Certain newspapers in despatches from Washington yesterday told that Gov. Roosevelt's telephone communications with President McKinley.

The only communication which Gov. Roosevelt has had with Washington folks on the subject was in a letter to Senator Hanna, chairman of the Republican National Committee, stating that he, the governor, could be of as much service to the national ticket if he were nominated for governor of the State of New York, as if he were nominated for Vice-President. This communication was called forth by the general understanding that Gov. Roosevelt would be a tower of strength to the national ticket. The despatch stated that Gov. Roosevelt was a tower of strength to the national ticket. The despatch stated that Gov. Roosevelt was a tower of strength to the national ticket.

Gov. Roosevelt's attitude on the highly important matter of the Vice-Presidential nomination remains today as it always has been. He has communicated his views to Senator Platt and to Chairman Odell of the Republican State Committee, and they have been printed over and over again. In a word, Gov. Roosevelt desires to be nominated for Governor of the State of New York, and in this desire he is supported by the vast majority of the Republicans in the State. He has not telephoned to President McKinley, and he has not telephoned to the President's private secretary, Mr. Bliss.

There is one feature of the situation, however, which has not hitherto been printed. It is the gossip of Republican politicians and is as follows: Gov. Roosevelt is not so far from being a candidate for Vice-President as he is generally supposed to be. He is not so far from being a candidate for Vice-President as he is generally supposed to be. He is not so far from being a candidate for Vice-President as he is generally supposed to be.

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## DEWEY'S CANVASS OPENED.

RECEIVING VISITS FROM DEMOCRATS AT HIS COUNTRY HOME.

Yesterday's Callers Included Perry Belmont and Congressman Levy. Mr. Dewey Gives His Views of the Administration's Candidacy and Says He Would Be a Winner.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Admiral Dewey's campaign, the President is now actively engaged, and he is receiving visits at Beauvoir from eminent Democrats wishing to personally assure him of their sympathy and support.

Today's callers included two influential politicians from the Empire State, Representative Jefferson M. Levy and Perry Belmont. The Admiral is also getting hundreds of letters from all parts of the country, all of a complimentary nature, but a large number advising him to withdraw from the race for the reason that he has no chance of winning. Col. Lamb, member of the National Committee from Virginia, has sent in his assurance of support, and like pledges are looked for in every mail. The candidate now hopes to get nearly all the votes of the Eastern States delegates. As soon as he has had opportunity to confer with a few more leading Eastern Democrats, he will announce his platform, which will declare for sound money and the ultimate independence of the Philippines, unless they shall in the meantime express a preference to remain under the protection of the American flag. Admiral Dewey has also determined to run as an independent if he fails to secure the Democratic nomination.

Mr. Belmont has already made known his views on the subject of Dewey's candidacy and Mr. Levy consented after his call to-day to make a brief statement. He said:

"As is well known, I have long been an ardent admirer of Admiral Dewey and advocate his nomination by the Democrats long before he announced his willingness to be a candidate. I have publicly announced my reasons on several occasions for my belief that his nomination would be the wisest the Democrats could make. I am now, however, making the acquaintance of the Admiral, I called on him this afternoon for the purpose of expressing my personal admiration for his achievements at Manila and offering him my warmest support for his present candidacy. The Admiral is a man of great ability and of the highest character. He is a man of great ability and of the highest character. He is a man of great ability and of the highest character.

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